

LIFE SAVING AWARD

Paramedic Joshua Dishart

On February 6, 2011, responding to a call regarding an infant in respiratory distress, Paramedic Joshua Dishart gathered the cardiac monitor, the ALS bag, and the pediatric bag, and entered the caller's home. There he found the child lying on the floor in respiratory arrest.

Pulseless and apneic, the patient was in cardiac arrest. The patient's mother had attempted mouth-to-mouth ventilations with no success. Paramedic Dishart directed another firefighter on the scene to begin compressions using the "two thumbs, encircling hands" technique. Another firefighter began BVM ventilations while Paramedic Dishart radioed Emergency Communications of a working code. Paramedic Dishart then applied the cardiac monitor and defibrillator pads and defibrillated the infant once in the kitchen and again in the ambulance.

While being transported to the hospital, the patient regained a strong pulse but remained unresponsive until a manual EZ-IO needle was inserted into her leg, causing her to cry out. She then maintained a strong cry until arriving at Frederick Regional Health System, at which time her care was transferred to the hospital staff. A follow up report confirmed that the patient was transported to Children's Hospital Center, and was later released in good condition.

Because of his leadership, decisive actions, and medical knowledge on that day, Joshua Dishart is hereby awarded the Life Saving Award.